

Amendment
Serial No. 10/684,881

REMARKS

Reconsideration of all grounds of rejection and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-5, 8 and 9 are now pending herein. Claims 10 and 11 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and their subject matter incorporated into claims 1 and 4, respectively. Claims 1 and 4 are independent claims.

At the outset, Applicant notes with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 10 and 11 recite allowable subject matter. As the allowable subject matter of claims 10 and 11 has been incorporated into claims 1 and 4, respectively, claims 1 and 4 are in condition for allowance at least for this reason.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over *Unitt et al.* (U.S. Pat. Appln. Pub. 2005/0163149) ("Unitt") in combination with *Dreyer et al.* (U.S. 6,098,103) ("Dreyer"). Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over *Unitt* in view of *Dreyer*, and in further view of *Counterman* (U.S. 5,648,958). Applicant respectfully submits that these grounds of rejection are now moot at least for the amendments discussed above regarding claims 1 and 4 which are allowable at least for the reason of incorporating the allowable subject matter of one of claims 10 and 11.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

All claims depending from one of claims 1 and 4 are believed patentable at least for dependency from one of claims 1 or 4, which are believed patentable for the reasons discussed above, and because of a separate basis for patentability. Individual consideration of each claim

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on its own merits are respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are patentable. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

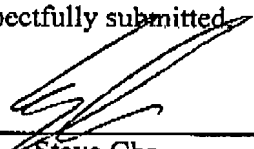
No fees are believed to be due at this time. However, please charge any deficiencies or credit any overages to deposit account 502-470.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted

Date:

11/27/07


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